

THE MAGIC TOUCH

Wrap up your summer with a day of decadence at one of these local spas.

By Jarvis Holiday



THE SPA AT BALLANTYNE

STAR SERVICE: BODY SCRUBS

The spa at this ultraluxe hotel is such a hit with locals that it draws more Charlotteans than out-of-towners. A must-have on its long list of services: the popular Pumpkin Pie and Sweet Wine Body Scrub (\$95 plus a 20 percent service charge). The 50-minute indulgence begins with an enzyme peel, followed by the application of 10 different grains, and ends with a rehydrating rubdown with muscadine grapes. *The Ballantyne Hotel and Lodge, 10000 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy. 704.248.4141. spaballantyne.com*

URBANA CITYSPA & TEABAR

STAR SERVICE: COUPLES MASSAGE

Give yourself enough time before your appointment at Urbana to enjoy one of more than 100 different complimentary teas served in the loftlike space. A bevy of treatments awaits, such as the Olympian and the Hawaiian Hot Stone massages, but if you're booking with your significant other, request the Escape for Two (\$180 per couple), a 60-minute Swedish-blend massage. It is perfect for working out the kinks in your relationship. If you're more interested in a threesome, reserve one of the massage rooms that can accommodate you and two pals. *7510 Pineville-Matthews Rd., Ste. 5-B. 704.543.1700; 16836 Birkdale Commons Pkwy., Ste. B. Huntersville. 704.710.8000. escape2urbana.com*

THE PORCH SWING SPA

STAR SERVICE: HAIR REMOVAL

While you'll be impressed by the Thai massage (yoga-style rubdown performed on a mat on the floor) or the detoxifying benefits of the Sunlight Sauna (as seen on *The Oprah Show*), many women—and some men—flock to this Elizabeth neighborhood sanctuary for hair removal, especially before hitting the beach. The certified electrologist will get rid of unwanted growth permanently, leaving you as smooth as can be. *2030 E. Seventh St. 704.376.8811. theporchswingspa.com*

EMERSON JOSEPH

STAR SERVICES: HAIRCUTS AND FACIALS FOR MEN

As a guys-only grooming lounge, this classy establishment offers the comfort and feel of a barbershop as well as several spa treatments a lot of fellas have come to love (but may not fess up to getting). So here you'll still feel like a manly man even as you get your mani/pedi, or brow, back, and chest waxed. Opt for a straight-razor shave, a full-service haircut (from \$44)—which comes with a shampoo and scalp rub, a drink of your choice, and a shoe shine—or splurge on the Massage a Trois (\$185), a 60-minute massage and facial carried out by two therapists. *221 S. Tryon St. 704.343.3443; 14835 John J. Delaney Dr., Ste. 105. 704.369.5181. emersonjoseph.com*